NEWS FOR VETERANS

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<u>VETERANS HOMES MEMBERS GOING FOR THE GOLD AT THE 18TH NATIONAL VETERANS GOLDEN AGE GAMES IN FRESNO</u>

Fifteen members from the Veterans Homes of California will be participating in the 18th National Veterans Golden Age Games in Fresno, CA. After having trained rain or shine, these athletes will now get a chance to demonstrate their athletic prowess against hundreds of other competitors. But aside from the competitive angle, these very important games offer senior veterans the chance to see distant friends, to travel, and to improve their overall well-being.

The 18th National Veterans Golden Age Games, a national sports and recreational competition sponsored by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), will take place July 18-23, 2004 at the Fresno Convention Center and other area venues.

Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs Tom Johnson will attend the opening ceremonies on Sunday, July 18th and will present medals to the winners during the Thursday, July 22nd medal ceremony.

Veterans representing the Veterans Homes of California include: Richard Conway, Alfred Curtis, Miguel Gonzalez, Franklin Hall (the oldest registered participant at 91 years of age), and Walter Smith, from the Chula Vista Veterans Home. James Campbell, Thomas Clark, Dorothy Davis, Jesse Gomez, Nate Helman, Harold Howard, Walter Kotowski, Almadge Newkirk, Don Stewart, and Charles Stokes from the Barstow Veterans Home.

A FAMILY THANKS THE VETERANS HOMES OF CALIFORNIA

This email was recently received at the Veterans Home of California in Yountville.

"We were all caught off guard when my mother was diagnosed and then lasted only 4 months with pancreatic cancer earlier in the year. My Father (82) was not well enough to live alone. He has been in the Yountville Vets Home now for about 2 months and loves it. They have been taking great care of him physically, mentally and medically. You can't imagine how relieved and happy he is to be there.

Thanks so very much for being there for him, as his health is failing and none of us adult children live very close to him. My wife and I have visited him at the home twice already and he's struck up many new friendships and acquaintances in the short time he's been there. He's quite comfortable with his roommates and sleeping quarters and loves the food. He has absolutely no

complaints whatsoever. It's really a beautiful facility, well kept and quiet. He feels very lucky to be there, I can assure you.

Thanks again from all of us Adams'. My Father served his country well in the Army and after WWII, he worked 40+ years as a Civil Servant in the Army Corps of Engineers and he appreciates CA Vets Home for taking him in."

Sincerely, John Adams

MILITARY ONE SOURCE

The Department of Defense (DOD) has established MILITARY ONE SOURCE, a "one-stop" place to go whenever family members or service members need assistance with any kind of problem. MILITARY ONE SOURCE is available anytime worldwide and augments family services now available at each major military installation. MILITARY ONE SOURCE is also available to National Guard and Reservists being called to duty for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Services include help for common everyday difficulties to life's most complicated situations. Asking for help is not a weakness; it's really a sign of being smart…like putting out a small fire before it gets bigger.

To access the service of MILITARY ONE SOURCE, please call:

Within the United States: (800) 342-9647 Outside the United States: (800) 3429-6477 International Collect: (484) 530-5747

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